AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Insert before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

Field of the Invention

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 10 with:

Vehicles of this type are known from the prior art, and notably include ~~curtain-type~~ curtain-type airbags, attached just under the roof of the vehicle along the lateral surfaces of the body, and essentially covering the entire length of the roof. When inflated, these airbags deploy downwards[,] as shown in FIG. 11.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 14 with:

Typically, each airbag in the vehicle has front and rear straps that are deployed along with the airbag to restrain it once inflated. Since the ~~air~~ airbag is designed to be totally inflated within the few milliseconds following impact, it is especially important to the safety of the occupants that nothing hinder its movement.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 18 with:

However, these straps are coiled up between the interior trim and the body. Upon inflation of the airbag, the straps undergo a general twisting motion downwards. This twisting motion is hindered by the lack of space between the interior trim and the body, and especially by the horizontal structural ribs in the interior trim that extend between the trim and the body, which ~~slows~~ slow down the movement of the rear strap.

Insert before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 23:

Summary of the Invention

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 25 with:

To achieve this, the vehicle according to the invention, which otherwise complies with the generic definition given in the preamble above, ~~is essentially characterized by the~~

~~fact that it~~ comprises means of separating the interior trim from the body when the airbag is inflated, thereby facilitating the travel of the strap.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 9 with:

For example, the floating ramp includes a casing which houses the second locking device and to which the interior trim is attached, and at least one lower lug incorporated in the casing, and sliding into a corresponding slot in the fixed ramp, wherein the moveable ramp rests on a base in the housing by means of the lug, and goes from its standby position to its deployed position by pivoting on ~~said~~ the lower lug.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 14 with:

Appropriately, the interior trim includes at least a first panel which is securely attached to the floating ramp, a second panel adjoining the first component and facing the airbag in such a way as to be forced away from the body when the airbag inflates, and means of connecting the first panel to the second panel, so that the force acting on the second panel is transmitted to the first panel until ~~said~~ the force exceeds a second predetermined threshold, higher than the first, wherein ~~said~~ the connection, once the second threshold is reached, activates the separation of the first and second panels, thereby creating an opening through which the airbag is deployed in the passenger compartment of the vehicle.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 25 with:

For example, on the interior trim side, the top surface of the floating ramp includes an inner edge, with the first panel including an upper edge that extends parallel and close to the inner edge, where the second panel includes a lower edge that is engaged between ~~said~~ the inner and upper edges.

Insert before the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 6 with:

FIG. 2 is a partial ~~cross-section~~ cross-sectional view in the transversal plane of the airbag, and of the means used to open the interior trim, according to the direction shown by arrows (II) in FIG. 8, with the airbag non-inflated;

Insert before the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 30:

Detailed Description of the Invention

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 33 with:

Note that, as shown in FIG. 1, one edge (24) of the interior trim (20) is equipped with structural ribs (25) that run along the door (14). These ribs bridge the gap between the external surface (26) of the interior trim (20) which faces the body (10) and the rear pillar (12) of ~~said~~ the body (10). These are parallel and superposed, and run perpendicular to the rear pillar (12) of the body (10), and parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 10 with:

More specifically, the means used to separate the interior trim (20) include a floating ramp (40) attached to the body (10) that moves away from ~~said~~ the body when going from its relatively close standby position to a relatively more spaced position with respect to the body (10) when deployed.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 26 with:

Furthermore, the interior trim (20) includes at least one first panel (21) which is firmly attached to the floating ramp (40), a second panel (22) adjoining the first and positioned in such a way with respect to the airbag (30) that the airbag (30) pushes the second panel (22) away from the body (10) upon inflation, and ~~means of~~ constraints between the first and second panels (21, 22) which transmit the forces acting on the second panel (22) to the first panel (21) until ~~said~~ the forces exceed a second predetermined threshold value which is greater than the first, wherein once the second predetermined threshold has been exceeded, the constraints allow the first and second panels (21, 22) to be mutually separated from each

other in order to define an opening (23) through which the airbag (30) is deployed inside the vehicle compartment.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 8 with:

According to the ~~method of~~ embodiment represented in FIGS. 1 through 10, the first component (21) consists of the quarter panel trim which is parallel to the rear pillar (12), and the second component (22) consists of the roof liner which is parallel to the top (11).

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 30 with:

The fixed ramp also includes two C-shaped hooks (551), incorporated in the leading edge of the lower side panel (55), as shown in FIG. 4. Both of these hooks have one end attached to ~~said~~ the leading edge, the first end extending from the opposite side of the inner fascia (53) towards the exterior of the fixed ramp (50), with the second end (552) being essentially positioned under the first end.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 1 with:

The second end (552) has a leading edge which is thinner on one side with respect to the fixed ramp (50), where a shoulder (553) separates ~~said~~ the leading edge from the rest of the hook.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 6 with:

As shown in FIGS. 6 & 7, the fixed ramp (50) is attached to the body by ~~means of the~~ upper lugs (561) which engage the upper openings (122), and is wedged against the surface of the rear pillar (12) opposite the fixed ramp (50), and by the attachment hooks (551) that engage the lower openings (123). The other ends (552) are pressed against the corresponding lower edge of the lower openings (123) at the opposite end of the fixed ramp (50), so that their leading edge is included in the angle created by the shoulder (553) and the thinner leading edge. The shoulder (553) is pressed against the body (10) at the opposite end of the fixed ramp (50) and the thinner leading edge engages the lower opening (123) and presses against its lower edge.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 24 with:

The fixed ramp (50) includes two housings (52) which are an integral part of the lower leading edge (55) and protrude from the fixed ramp (50) with respect to ~~said~~ the edge.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 1 with:

Note that the opening (521) is located in a part of the closed surface (521) near the lower side (55), and that the part of ~~said~~ the closed surface next to the bottom surface (523) is solid.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 9 with:

~~Said~~ The means include two L-shaped stop lugs (41) which are incorporated into the upper side (45). Each lug includes a straight joining leg (411) which is incorporated into the upper side (45) at one end, which extends in an essentially perpendicular direction with respect to the lower floating surface (431), and a straight stop leg (412) which is incorporated into the opposite end of the joining leg (411) and perpendicular to ~~said~~ the leg.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 1 with:

The locking tabs (42) consist of a main U-shaped section (421) which is perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, with locking tabs (422) protruding from ~~said~~ the main section.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 4 with:

More specifically, the main section (421) includes two parallel flat plates, each being attached to the lower floating surface (431) on one side, and joined by a nose section (423) on the opposite side of ~~said~~ the surface. Each plate has a boss (422) on one side of ~~said~~ the plate, opposite the other plate, near the nose section (423).

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 11 with:

The width (11) of the main section (421) is smaller than the transversal space (e2), and, at the height of the boss (422), the width of the locking tab (12) is situated between transversal spaces (e1) and (e2).

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 4 with:

More specifically, the main section (213) includes two parallel flat plates, each being attached to the first trim panel (21) on one side, and joined by a nose section (215) on the opposite side of ~~said~~ the component. Each plate has a boss (214) on one side of ~~said~~ the plate, opposite the other plate, near the nose section (215).

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 8 with:

The lateral locating lips (461) are separated by a transversal space (e3). The locating lips (462) are tilted towards each other, so that their respective leading edges are separated by a transversal space (e4) which is smaller than transversal space (e3).

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 11 with:

The width (13) of the main locking section (213) is smaller than transversal space (e4), and, at the level of the bosses (214), the locking tab (212) has a width (14) situated between transversal spaces (e3) and (e4). The locking tabs (212) snap into the lock openings (46) so that the locking bosses (214) are turned towards the edges (462) of the lock openings and retained behind ~~said~~ the edges. The tabs (212) are then kept in position by the bosses (214).

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 29 with:

The second panel (22) is defined by a lower edge (221) which, at least on part of its length, is engaged between ~~said~~ the lower edge (451) and ~~said~~ the upper edge (211), so that the pressure exerted by the airbag (30) against the second panel (22) in the direction opposite the body (10) is transmitted to the first panel (21).